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ETHNOLINGUISTIC MINORITIES OF COMMUNIST CHINA

The ethnic minorities of Communist China (see accompanying table) numbered about 35 million, or 6 percent of the population, in the 1955 census and were estimated to number about 40 million in 1961. The areas they occupy lie mostly in the interior mountains, deserts, and high plains that comprise more than half of China.

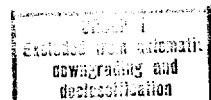
The present distribution of ethnic minorities -- within the Manchurian, Inner Mongolian, Turkic (in Sinkiang), Tibetan, and southwestern regions of non-Chinese settlement (see Map 39290) -- has been influenced historically by military suppression, political subjugation, and pressures from Chinese settlers. Many relict peoples are now scattered near the historic avenues of Chinese cultural expansion, especially in the western highland regions that adjoin the Tibetan, Burman, and Tai* cultural areas. The maintenance of traditional pastoral and agricultural ways of life in varied physical settings has helped to preserve the cultural identities of numerically large but politically weak non-Chinese peoples. These include the Mongols, Uighurs, Kazakhs, Tibetans, I or Lolo, Miao, Yao, and T'ai.

The Muslims of China constitute 2 percent or more of the world total. In 1955 they included more than 4 million non-Chinese living in Sinkiang, Kansu, and Tsinghai and 3.5 million Chinese Muslims (Hui) scattered in those provinces and elsewhere.

The regional dialects of southern China are spoken by about 30 percent of the country's total population. The non-Mandarin-speaking linguistic communities of southern coastal China are characterized by inherited differences from the northern Chinese (Han) in social patterns and in outlook.

* "Tai" is used here to refer to the linguistic community of peoples ranging from the Chuang of Kwangsi to the "Thai" of Thailand. It includes the "T'ai" of southern Yunnan, the Laotians, and even the Li of Hainan.

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NON-CHINESE PEOPLES OF CHINAPART VII
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People	Population in 1953 (in thousands)	Location
<u>Northeastern China</u>		
Manchu	2,419	Widely distributed in Manchuria and Hopeh
Korean	1,120	Eastern Kirin; some scattered westward
Manchu-related peoples: Sibo, Evenki, Oronchon, Ho-chih	28	Scattered in northern Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region (IMAR) and Heilungkiang
<u>Northwestern China and Inner Mongolia</u>		
Mongol	1,463	IMAR; also Heilungkiang, Sinkiang, Tsinghai, Kansu
Mongol-related peoples: Tu, Pao-an, Tung-hsiang, Daghor	258	Kansu; also Heilungkiang, northern Sinkiang
Uighur	3,640	Southern Sinkiang
Uighur-related peoples: Salar, Yu'ku	35	Kansu
Kazakh	509	Northern Sinkiang; some in northwestern Tsinghai
Kirghiz	71	Western Sinkiang
Uzbek, Tatar	21	Western Sinkiang, mostly in cities and towns
Tadzhik (Indo-European)	14	Southwestern Sinkiang
<u>Tibet and Adjoining Areas</u>		
Tibetan	2,776	Tibet; also parts of Tsinghai, Kansu, Szechwan, Yunnan
Tibetan-related peoples: Ch'iang, Nu, Tu-lung	51	Northern Szechwan and northwestern Yunnan
<u>Southern China</u>		
<u>Predominantly Mountain Dwellers</u>		
I (Lolo)	3,254	Southwestern Szechwan, Yunnan, western Kweichow
I-related peoples: Ha-ni, Li-su, Na-hsi, La-hu, Pai, A-ch'ang, T'u-chia, Akha	2,214	Southern, central, western Yunnan; also western Hunan
Ching-p'o (same as Kachin of Burma)	102	Western Yunnan
Miao, including Ko-lao	2,532	Spread over western Hunan, southern Kweichow, western Kwangsi, eastern Yunnan
Yao, including She	885	Yao spread over southern Hunan, northern Kwangtung, Kwangsi; She in Chekiang, Fukien
Li	361	Hainan Island
Kawa (Wa), including Pu-lang, Peng-lung	324	Southwestern Yunnan adjoining Burma border
<u>Predominantly Lowland and Hill Dwellers</u>		
T'ai	479	Western and southern Yunnan
Chuang, including Mo-lao, Mao-nan	7,091	Central and western Kwangsi
Chuang-related peoples: Pu-i or Chung-chia, T'ung, Shui	2,095	Southern Kweichow; adjoining parts of Kwangsi and Hunan

ETHNOLINGUISTIC REGIONS*

CHINESE**

Mandarin

Southern dialects

NON-CHINESE

Mongol

Turkic

Tibetan

Southwestern tribes

Chuang, T'ung and T'ai related peoples

Tai peoples and others

(Shan, Kachin, Lao, etc.); also K'a-wa, Ching-p'o, La-hu and others.

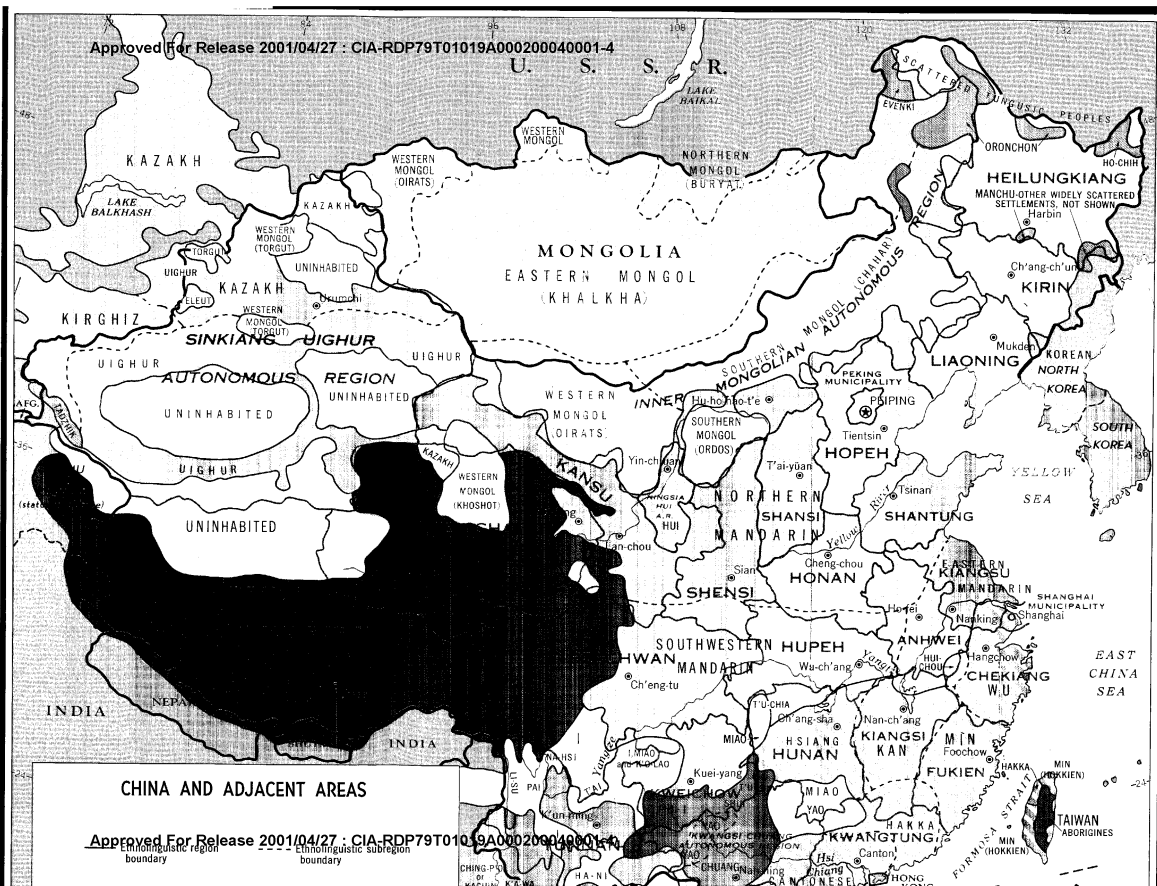
Mountain peoples

I or Lolo (west of Kuei-yang), Miao (Meo outside China) and Yao (east of K'un-ming); also Ching-p'o (Kachin), Li-su, Na-hsi, Pai, T'u-chia, and others. Most settlement areas scattered and non-continuous.

Korean

Other

Tungus (Northeast), Tadzhik (Sinkiang),
Li (Hainan), Aborigines (Taiwan), and
Vietnamese



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